

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 G06F3/033 G06F17/60

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 IPC 7 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
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| X | <p>US 5 977 974 A (HATORI KENJI ET AL) 2 November 1999 (1999-11-02)</p> <p>column 2, line 38 - line 57 column 5, line 16 - column 6, line 14 column 9, line 9 - line 21 column 21, line 29 - line 38; claims 1-9,20-28,39; figures 4-13</p> <p>----- -/--</p> | <p>1,3-10, 12, 14-17, 19,20,22</p> |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

10 January 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

17/01/2005

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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| A | US 2002/075306 A1 (GROSSNER CLIFFORD P ET AL) 20 June 2002 (2002-06-20) paragraph '0016! paragraph '0063! - paragraph '0064! paragraph '0087! paragraph '0104!; figure 1 ----- | 2,7,8, 11,13, 18,20, 21,23 |

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